REMARKS

Claims 1-15 were previously pending in this application.

Claims 16-18 were withdrawn and are hereby cancelled without prejudice. Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application directed to the subject matter covered in the cancelled (non-elected) claims 16-18.

Claims 1 is amended to include a limitation drawn from allowable claim 3. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the claim amendment be entered as no new issue is presented and no new search is required.

Claim 3 is cancelled in favor of amended claim 1.

Claims 5, 7 and 9-15 are amended to correct their dependency as claim 3 is now cancelled.

No new matter is added.

Applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of the claims in light of the following remarks.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claim 3 is allowable.

CLAIM REJECTIONS - 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-2, 4, 7, 9-10 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by GB 2,324,781 (referred to as "GB'781" hereinafter).

Claims 1-2, 4-8 and 10-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shutov et al. US 5,415,354 (referred to as "Shutov" hereinafter).

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

To facilitate the allowance of this case, claim 1 is amended to recite, "wherein said reaction control means comprises an electron supply device for applying electrons into the barrel using the barrel and a screw as electrodes for reduction of the reactant," a limitation of allowable claim 3.

Accordingly, Claim 1 is in condition for allowance and dependent claims 2 and 4-14, which depend from allowable claim 1, are also in condition for allowance for their dependency Docket No. 3576-061

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and their own merits.

CLAIM REJECTIONS - 35 U.S.C.§103

Claims 3 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over GB'781.

Claims 5-6 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over GB'781, and further in view of Enikolopow et al. US 4,607,797.

Claims 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over GB'781, and further in view of Shutov.

Claims 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shutov, and further in view of GB'781.

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

As discussed above, claim 1 is now in condition for allowance because it recites a limitation from allowable claim 3, which is know cancelled in favor of claim 1. Accordingly, claims 5-6, 9 and 11-13, which depend from allowable claim 1, are also in condition for allowance for their dependency and their own merits.

Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims of the application as amended is requested. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 896-2643 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,

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Hosoon Lee, Reg. No. 56,737

Customer No. 83219

9600 SW Oak Street, Suite 525 Tigard, OR 97223

Phone: 503) 896-2643